

# Bill Lindsay's Community Report

from the Suffolk County Legislature

Fall 2010

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## Lindsay Leads Bipartisan Working Group In Line-by-Line Review of 2011 Budget

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay is leading the bipartisan Operating Budget Working Group of the legislature on a line-by-line examination of the proposed 2011 county operating budget, making cuts wherever possible and making sure that all revenue estimates in the budget are completely justified.

"We have concerns about the structural integrity of the County Executive's budget and we are taking a close look at all revenue estimates," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. PO Lindsay said that among the revenues included in the proposed budget that may be suspect are:

- \$20 million from the closing of the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility, which has not been approved by the County Legislature and which may not have the votes to pass.

- \$12 million from the sale of 95 acres of county land in Yaphank, a sale which also must be approved by the

**"This is the most difficult budget we have ever worked on and we are doing everything we can to cut costs to the bones and hold the line on general fund property taxes for the seventh consecutive year."**

**-Legislator Lindsay**

Legislature via resolution.

- Revenue estimates from red-light cameras that the Budget Review Office says "may be considerably overstated."

"This is the most difficult budget we have ever worked on and we are doing everything we can to cut costs to the bones and hold the line on general fund property taxes for the seventh consecutive year," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. "The questionable revenue estimates have made the job considerably more difficult."

The County Legislature will vote on the revised proposed budget and any budget amendments at a special meeting on November 3. Any vetoes by the County Executive will be considered at the general meeting November 16.

"These continue to be extremely difficult financial times and virtually no one will emerge unscathed from this budget process," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. "But we will do everything we possibly can to maintain core county services and hold the line on general fund property taxes."

## Lindsay Honors Life-Saving EMT Valerie White



Legislator Lindsay nominated Ms. Valerie White as his district's designee for the Suffolk County Volunteer Recognition Program for her outstanding service to the community as a volunteer EMS worker for Community Ambulance Company in Sayville. She recently became the first woman and the only non-firefighter to receive the EMS Provider of the Year award from the Firemen's Association of the State of New York (FASNY).

While helping out on an extra shift, in addition to her regular volunteer service, Ms. White prevented a mentally unstable patient from jumping out of a

moving ambulance traveling at 65 miles per hour, saving the life of a fellow community member. That selfless act earned her the EMS Provider of the Year award.

In times of great fiscal challenges, Presiding Officer Lindsay encourages volunteerism and the hard work of neighbors helping neighbors.

"The kind of life-saving volunteer work performed by Ms. White is a perfect example of what makes our communities strong," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. "She gives unselfishly of her time to help her friends and neighbors, and I thank her for making our community a better and safer place to live."



# LINDSAY SPEARHEADS BEAUTIFICATION

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay organized a Holbrook Beautification Committee designed to keep our community clean and well-maintained during the tough economy.

The committee will use a variety of tactics to maintain our neighborhoods including accessing grant monies; volunteerism; the Red Cross Community Service Program; and the Sheriff's Labor Assistance Program (SLAP), a service made available to our community from Suffolk County Sheriff Vincent DeMarco. Holbrook is already reaping the rewards of the newly formed committee with SLAP prisoners completing the weeding of the medians along

Patchogue-Holbrook Road. Similar to the Adopt-A-Highway program that already exists, the Beautification Committee will be looking for other local businesses and organizations to adopt a median in the upcoming months.

A community clean-up sponsored by the Holbrook Beautification Committee was held on Saturday, October 23rd. Volunteers met in the parking lot of the Seneca Middle School at 9 a.m. where supplies donated by Keep Islip Clean were distributed. "We are in times of great fiscal challenges and as a result we need the support and participation from members of our community to preserve and beautify our neighborhoods," said Lindsay.



Photo Left: Members of the Holbrook Beautification Committee include, left to right, Phil Lorito, Jim Guccione, Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay, Peggy Ruth, Rick Ammirati, Kevin Guilfoyle, and Lou Medina.



Photo to the Right: Suffolk County Sheriff Vincent DeMarco, left, and Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay oversee the Sheriff's Labor Assistance Program (SLAP) pulling weeds from the median on Patchogue-Holbrook Road.

## Support Services Change Lives During Crises

Friends of Karen is an organization that helps support children and families during crisis. Friends of Karen provides services to children and families in over 22 counties in the tri-state area and help to keep them stable, functioning and able to cope. Among the services offered are:

- Direct financial assistance to help families cover basic living expenses such as rent, mortgage payments, and utilities while they must stop working to care for a sick child.
- Coverage of illness-related expenses including the cost of medical co-pays and equipment, and cost of meals while visiting a hospitalized child.
- Help cover child care costs for siblings while parents are traveling to doctor and hospital visits.
- Advocacy on behalf of children and families.
- Assistance with funeral arrangements and expenses.
- "Gifts-In-Kind" which brings meaningful birthday presents, holiday gifts,

and school supplies to the children and their siblings.

- Bereavement support.
- Sibling Support Program to help young siblings cope with their loved one's illness.

Friends of Karen spends over \$100,000 per month to help families with expenses during times of crisis.

"The Friends of Karen organization demonstrates compassion and commitment to the well-being of critically ill children and their families," said Suf-



folk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay. "The many services they provide are excellent tools that should be utilized while facing exceptional challenges."

Please contact 631-473-1768 or visit [www.friendsofkaren.org](http://www.friendsofkaren.org) for further information.

## IDENT-A-KID Program a Huge Success!

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay co-sponsored an IDENT-A-KID program at the Bayport Expo on Wednesday, October 14th. With the assistance of District Attorney Thomas Spota, the Police Athletic League and Officer Terrence Buckley, over 100 IDENT-A-KID profiles were completed.

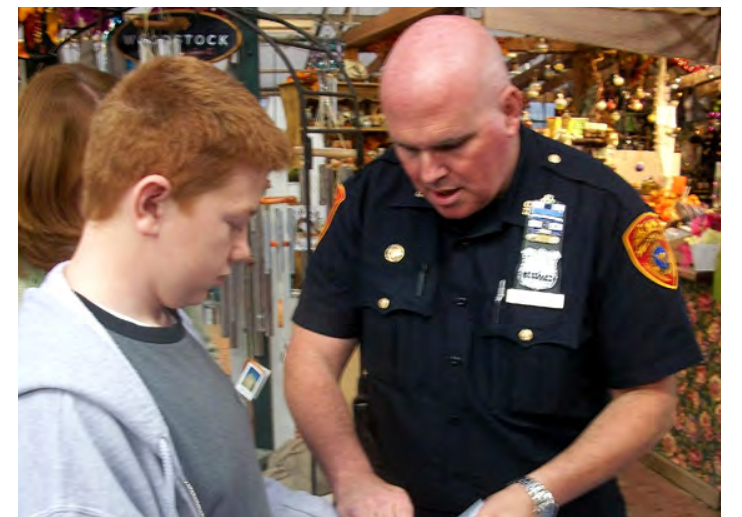
Lindsay explained to parents and young children the importance of having up-to-date photographs, fingerprints,

medical history and emergency records, along with a DNA sample that lasts up to 10 years, all in one location.

"This is a terrific program that the District Attorney and I have organized with the help of PAL," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. "Seeing all of the children's beautiful smiles and knowing that the families in our communities are doing everything to prepare for the safety of their children is absolutely wonderful."



District Attorney Thomas Spota, left, and Presiding Officer Lindsay welcomed young children to complete an IDENT-A-KID.



Officer Terrence Buckley assists a youngster with fingerprinting.



# NYC Mounted Officer Saves Times Square

*Lindsay honors Wayne Rhatigan from Holbrook*

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay honored New York City Mounted Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan from Holbrook with a Hometown Hero Award for his immediate ac-

tion to protect New York City from a car bomb in Times Square on May 1, 2010.

Officer Rhatigan was first alerted by a T-shirt vendor of smoke coming from a Nissan Pathfinder parked haphaz-

ardly on the southwest corner of 45th Street and Broadway at around 6:30 in the evening. At first glance, Officer Rhatigan noticed that the ignition was running and the hazard lights of the vehicle were on. Aware of the severity of the situation, Rhatigan circled the vehicle and found the car to be reeking of gunpowder, with the possibility of an explosion at any second. He quickly organized a massive evacuation of Times Square and led people to safety.

"It is my absolute pleasure to present the Hometown Hero Award to NYC Police Officer and Holbrook resident Wayne Rhatigan," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. "Wayne probably saved thousands of lives that day and the people of Suffolk County are thankful for his quick actions in Times Square."



## Holbrook Hometown Hero Returns

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay met with Marine Lance Cpl. Andrew Faller while Faller was on his 15-day visit home from Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. Presiding Officer Lindsay presented Faller with a Proclamation for his dedication and continued service to the United States Armed Forces. Presiding Officer Lindsay also extended his sincerest gratitude and appreciation.

The Town of Islip's Hometown Heroes Program arranged a warm welcome filled with family members and friends, neighbors, veterans, and other well-wishers upon Faller's return late Saturday night, August 28th, at Islip MacArthur Airport.

"I wish Andrew the very best as he returns to active duty and I welcome him to attend a General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature upon his return to his hometown," said Presiding Officer Lindsay.



Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay gives Proclamation to Marine Lance Cpl. Andrew Faller. At right is Andrew Faller's mother, Darlene Konyha.

## Lindsay Mandates Annual Survey of Life-Saving Devices

After launching a program to save lives and to install Automatic Electric Defibrillators (AEDs) in the downtown areas throughout the Eighth Legislative District, Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay introduced a resolution at the General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature on September 16th mandating an annual survey of AED locations in Suffolk County.

The Suffolk County Department of Health Services, through its Office of Emergency Medical Services, will develop and conduct this annual survey effective January 2011. The Department of Health Services maintains a database with all AED locations in Suffolk County. This survey shall be used to determine which registered AED locations continue to be available for public use, and which registered locations -- which fail to return the survey -- shall be removed from the county's database.

"We need to respond quickly to increase the chances of survival in the case of heart attacks and cardiac arrest," said Presiding Officer Lindsay. "It is imperative that the safety of the people of Suffolk County is always the primary concern before this legislative body."

Presiding Officer Lindsay's legislation was adopted at the General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature on October 12th with a unanimous vote, 18-0. "I want to thank each of my colleagues for continuing our efforts to save the lives of the people of Suffolk County," said Presiding Officer Lindsay.

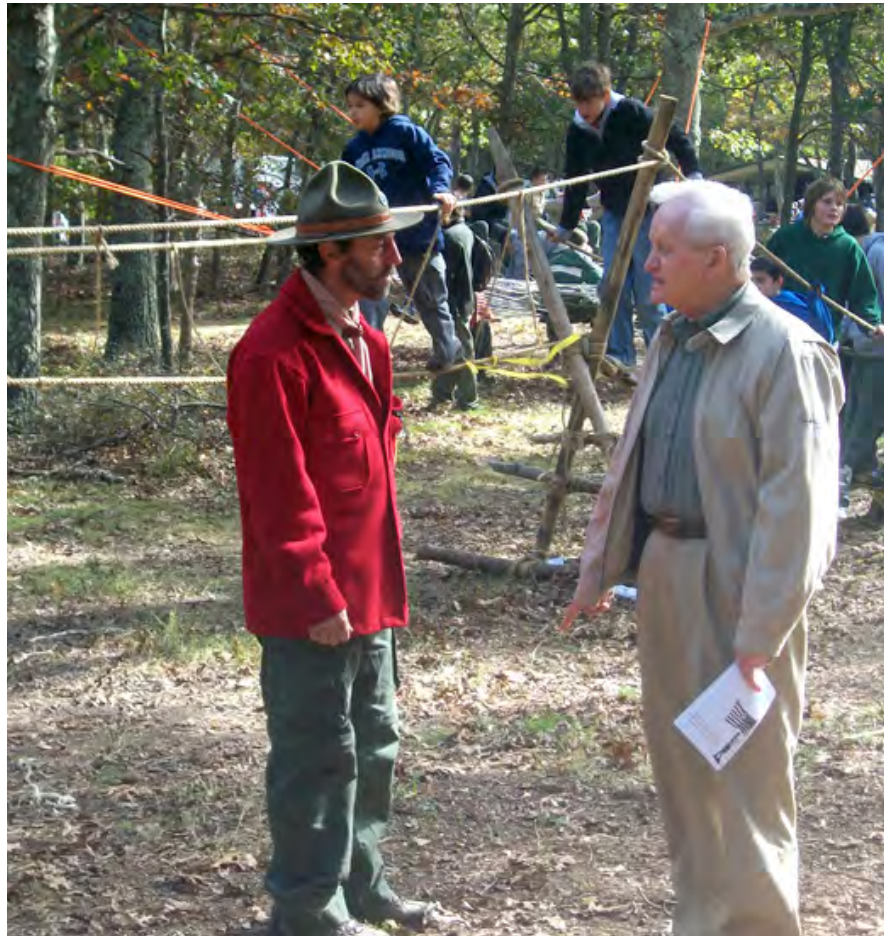


# HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY BOY SCOUTS!

Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay recently helped the Boy Scouts of America/Suffolk County Council organize the largest gathering of scouts in over a decade. From October 15th to 17th, over 3,800 children and their families celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Scouting at the “Camporee” at Southaven Park.

“I was very impressed by the team-building exercises and organization of the activities planned for this weekend,” said Presiding Officer Lindsay. “Working together as a unit, being under the stars on a beautiful Saturday night and spending time with close family and friends are all memories that the scouts will never forget.”

Presiding Officer Lindsay extended his best wishes to everyone as they continue the journey to another 100 years of scouting. “Our young people strongly influence our lives and this momentous occasion must be celebrated,” said Presiding Officer Lindsay. “The training and leadership skills that our young people receive are extremely valuable in the formation of our next generation of leaders.”



Above: Presiding Officer Lindsay, right, and Brian McAuliffe of the Boy Scouts of America discuss rope-climbing and other events at the Camporee weekend.

Below: Boy Scouts participate in re-enacting history by participating in a revolutionary drill.

